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The Connecticut Libertarian

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Libertarian Party Member Signs Up for Three Republican Primaries

Libertarian Party of Connecticut member Ken Mosher recently made a lot of news as a candidate in Republican primaries. Although a long-time member, Mosher registered as a Republican after moving recently. After Judge Dorsey's ruling allowing anyone to force a primary simply by registering, he entered three Republican primaries.



Libertarian Party Member Ken Mosher

Mosher is also the Libertarian Party candidate this year for State Treasurer. Here are some of his comments about the run:

"It was just a stroke of good luck that I read the news story that said any Republican or Democrat could force a primary just by signing up. It never even occurred to me to sign up for fewer than three, even while it shocked the entire political and media establishment! I saw it as an opportunity to spread the message of lower taxes and smaller government as far and wide as possible.

"Even though I haven't been contacted a single time as a candidate for Treasurer, within one hour of signing up for the Republican primaries I had phone calls piling up on my machine. The New Haven Register, Hartford Courant, Channel 30, New London Day,

New York Times, Manchester Record Journal, the Chronicle, WILI radio.

"Colin McEnroe mentioned me on WTIC during evening drive time. AP picked up the primaries story and I was mentioned in the Boston Globe. A follow-up feature article in The Day ran after the [Dorsey] decision was overturned. Everyone except the Globe mentioned at least once that I was really a Libertarian. In every interview I stressed that I was really a libertarian

and that I registered for 3 primaries.

"Judge Dorsey's ruling was partially overturned and the primaries won't be held, but it was still a fantastic whirlwind of publicity during which libertarianism, low taxes and small government were stressed over and over. I think it was a great opportunity to get exposure for the party and our ideals and if given the chance I'd do it again, except I'd most likely also sign up to primary against Governor Rowland!"

Convention Returns to the Old State House

This year's Convention for the Libertarian Party of Connecticut will take place in the Old State House in Hartford on September 7th. The Convention features several prominent Connecticut speakers, dinner, and lots of good discussion.

The Convention will open with the Annual Business Meeting. Several By-Laws changes have been proposed and a lively discussion is assured. A long-term strategic plan will also be discussed.

Business will be followed by several interesting speakers:

Ralph Sherman – chairman of Gunsafe and a Connecticut attorney who is dedicated to the preservation of the Second Amendment and the right of self-defense.

Walt Theissen – one of the founders of the Mountain Laurel Sudbury School, school treasurer, and self-employed website operator and host. Past (1996) Libertarian Party candidate for the Fifth Congressional District.

Howard Avory Grayson – a physician, is a long-time advocate for Fully Informed Jury (the right of a jury to judge the law as well as the evidence). Past (1988 and 1992) Libertarian Party US Senate candidate.

The Keynote Address will be

delivered by Walter Gengarelly, Libertarian Party Candidate for the Fifth Congressional District this year.

An excellent buffet dinner will be provided by Libertarian Party member Carl Richardson, who is an owner of the Paperback Cafe in Old Saybrook. Candidate comments and campaign discussions will follow.



The Old State House in Hartford

The Old State House is a beautiful and impressive site. This year the Libertarian Party State Central Committee agreed that this type of venue, and the limited government that it represented, was the most appropriate location for the Libertarian Party of Connecticut Convention.

Be sure to plan on attending the Libertarian Party's 2002 Convention on September 7th. A registration form and By-Laws changes are included with this newsletter.

Drug Laws Punish Connecticut Citizens

by Steve Weitzman

How are Connecticut's drug laws hurting Connecticut's citizens? Connecticut's jail population is at an all time high. The jails are overflowing. Connecticut is paying to send its inmates out of state. It costs the people of Connecticut approximately \$40,000 per inmate per year to keep someone in jail. This does not include the tremendous amount of money Connecticut's citizens have to pay the police, the courts, the district attorneys, and the public defenders to put someone in jail.

How much money are you willing to let the state take from your family to put someone in jail who likes to go home after work and smoke marijuana? The Republicans and Democrats in our state legislature don't care about your answer. They have decided that you're willing to let the state take a lot. They've decided that you're willing to pay an income tax to do it. For over 200 years, Connecticut had no income tax. Now, with our overflowing courts and

jails, the legislators say we need an income tax. What happened to Governor Rowland's promise to end the income tax? That was his main campaign issue. Has he even lowered the income tax?

How about safety? Probably even the Republicans and Democrats agree that the most important function of state and local government is to protect its citizens' lives and property from violent criminals. Connecticut's drug laws drain the resources of our police departments. As a result, many violent criminals are not apprehended. The ones that are apprehended are often not sent to jail by the justice system. The prosecutors' caseload is overloaded with drug cases. The prosecutors do not and cannot give the time and effort necessary to put violent criminals in jail. Often they don't even obtain a guilty plea. Frequently, the best they do is getting the criminal to go to some kind of ridiculous "anger management program" in exchange for dropping the charges. Judges are often hesitant to send violent criminals to jail because there's simply no room. Connecticut's drug laws put everyone in Connecticut, except the violent criminals, in danger. Who would you rather come across walking on the street: a violent criminal or someone who just smoked marijuana? You'd probably get a much friendlier greeting from the latter.

Connecticut's drug laws are a disaster. They harm us and put us in danger. Connecticut's Republican and Democratic parties both support Connecticut's drug laws. Only the Libertarian Party will free Connecticut citizens from the constant assaults of the Drug War.



Walter Gengarely, LP Candidate for Congress in the 5th District, is shown working on a campaign speech.

Voter Registration Lists Needed

If you live in or near any of the following towns, we need your help. These are towns that do not participate in the Secretary of State's registered voters list. Someone needs to ask the Town Clerk for the list, preferably on electronic media (CD, diskette, etc). In some cases only printed copies will be available. This information will assist us in locating registered Libertarians who are not LP members currently, as well as helping candidates identify independent voters. The towns are:

Danbury	Norwalk
East Haddam	Shelton
East Hartford	Simsbury
Enfield	Stamford
Fairfield	Wallingford
Greenwich	Warren
Hartford	Washington
Madison	Waterbury
Milford	West Hartford
Monroe	Westport
New Britain	Winchester
North Branford	Windsor

When you get the list, please contact political@lpct.org for a mailing address, or call 1-860-585-5857.

NOTICES

- **August 29** – Gengarely Addresses Homeschoolers, 6:30 p.m. (LP), 7:00 p.m. (address at 7p.m.) at the Plymouth Town Hall; 80 Main Street, Terryville, CT (Back of building, door on right).
- **September 7** – State Convention, Old State House, Hartford, CT, 2:00 p.m. The monthly Libertarian Party of Connecticut State Central Committee meeting will be held following the convention business meeting. The meeting is open to members and to the public. The Agenda is: Minutes • Officer and Director Reports • Convention needs • Legislative Research • Fund-raising • County Coordinators • Support for Fifth Congressional candidate • Support for State Reps • College Campus Organizing.
- **September 13-15** – Terryville Fair, at Terryville Fair Grounds (Plymouth) CT, 5-10p.m., 8a.m.-10p.m., 8a.m.-6p.m. Libertarian Party of Connecticut Outreach Booth
- **September 20** – “Evening of Celebration”, Meriden, CT, 6p.m. - 9:30p.m., 22 West Main St., (Senior Center), please meet at 5:30. Walter Gengarely and Arline Dunlop will be present.
- **September 21** – Hartford Festival, sponsored by Connecticut's P.R.I.D.E., LPCT will have a booth, and Walter Gengarely will speak around 1 p.m. Festival is 11a.m.-6p.m. at Bushnell Park.
- **September 21** – Second Amendment Rally, Noon - 2p.m. State Capitol in Hartford.
- **October 5-6** – Harwinton Fair (tentatively) Oct. 5 8a.m.-6p.m., Oct. 6 8a.m.-5p.m. - LPCT Outreach Booth
- Other events are being scheduled, especially for Congressional candidate Walter Gengarely. Please watch our website for details and directions, and attend as much as you can!
- The Libertarian Party of Connecticut may now be contacted at 860-585-5857. The new line has voice mail as well, so you can leave a message.